VS GUI User Guide Addendum

Release 1.7.29.0 Update

Revision History

Date	Revision	Description	Author
09/1/2022	1.1	Reviewed and approved	REDACTED
09/1/2022	1.0	Created Release Documentation	Booz Allen Hamilton VSE PMO

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1 Introduction

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) Scheduling Graphical User Interface (VS GUI) module is the Windows GUI version of the Patient Information Management System (PIMS) Scheduling module. It provides appointment management functions included in PIMS Scheduling, but with the added convenience and usability of a GUI.

1.1 Purpose

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Office of Veterans Access to Care (OVAC) requested an enterprise enhancement for the VS package that supports COVID-19 response. The enhancement reduces operating costs for VHA and improves operational efficiencies, resulting in patient-centered access to care, coordinated care, increased customer satisfaction, and the reduction of excessive cycle/wait time for scheduling patients.

1.2 Overview

VS GUI is a software module that allows schedulers to make appointments quickly by viewing multiple appointment request types and multiple clinics in one screen. A scheduler can easily view patient requests for service, find the next available open appointment, view the provider's availability in multiple clinics, and track a patient's appointment process. Refer to **System Summary** for a more detailed description of VS GUI functionality.

1.3 Disclaimers

1.3.1 Software Disclaimers

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1.4   Project References

1.4.1   Information

The VS GUI points of contact (POCs) include:

- » OVAC Program Office – REDACTED
- » TeleHealth & Scheduling Technical Manager – REDACTED
- » OVAC Emerging Technologies Acting Legacy Program Manager – REDACTED
- » OVAC Emerging Technologies VSE Subject Matter Expert (SME) – REDACTED

VSE Resources

- » Veterans Health Administration (VHA) VSE SharePoint: REDACTED
- » VA Software Document Library (VDL) – Scheduling (VSE manuals near the bottom): https://www.va.gov/vdl/application.asp?appid=100
- » National Return to Clinic (RTC) Order: REDACTED

2   System Summary

The VSE project delivers a series of enhancements to legacy VistA Scheduling Version 5.3 via the VS GUI application.

This update is for the nationally released version 1.7.29.0, which includes VS GUI 1.7.29.0 and VistA patch SD*5.3*823. At time of publishing, install period is projected for September 2022.

VS GUI release 1.7.29 contains several improvements to scheduling functionality, user interface and back-end logic. As of this release, the logic for walk-in appointments has been updated for efficiency. Additionally, users are now able to navigate the appointment calendar timeslots and the pending appointments grid using only the keyboard.

Display changes for VS GUI as of this release include Preferred Gender and Gender being changed to Gender Identity and Birth Sex as well as only the last four of SSNs being displayed. Also, the patient friendly appointment list now includes a timestamp to show when the list was printed. This release fixes a few issues discovered relating to privileged users and prohibited clinics as well an issue with MRTCs.

Finally, this release includes several new Remote Procedure Calls (RPC) as well as updated RPCs to support current and future functionality.

3 Key Feature Update in Version 1.7.29.0

3.1 Updates Preferred Gender and Gender to Gender Identity and Birth Sex

The field names Preferred Gender and Gender have been renamed to Gender Identity and Birth Sex to align with the VistA field names.
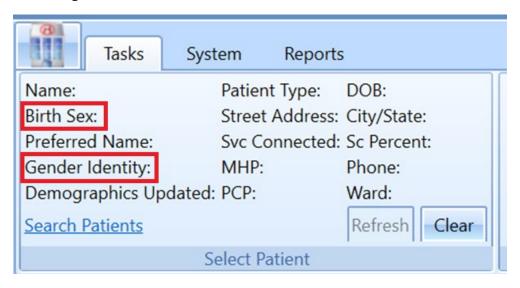

Figure 1: Renamed Preferred Gender and Gender to Gender Identity and Birth Sex

3.2 Adjusts Walk-In Appointment Type to Automatically Generate Appointment Request

As of this release, a user will be able to create a walk-in appointment without creating an appointment request. Creating the walk-in will automatically create and disposition the appointment request and check-in the patient.
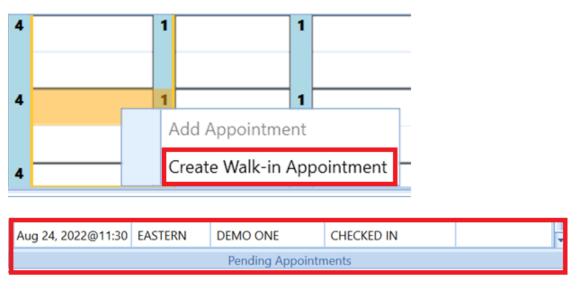

Figure 2: Creating Walk-in Appointment Will Automatically Generate Appointment Request.

3.3 Modifies SSN in VS GUI to only Display Last 4 of SSN

Only the last 4 of the SSN will now be displayed in VS GUI to comply with VHA Directive 2012-035.
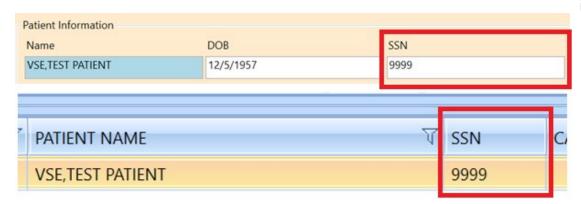

Figure 3: VS GUI now Only Shows only the Last 4 of SSN.

3.4 Adds Timestamp to Patient Friendly Appointment List

As of this release, the patient friendly appointment list will have a timestamp so there is visibility to when the list was printed.

Figure 4: Addition of Timestamp to Patient Friendly Appointment List.